

KNOW HOW TO POSSESS HIS VESSEL....

1 Thess 4:3-7

1 Th 4:3 Will of God

Specific will first. Then God reveal general will

If do God's will then close relationship with Him Mark 3:35

Separated life and renewed mind Rom 12:2

Desire to do His will from heart. Eph 6:6

Develop a thankful heart. 1 Th 5:18

Learn to do good. 1 Pet 2:15

Blessings for eternity. 1 John 2:17

Pure life. Sanctified and pure. Stay completely away from fornication.

Abstain: hold off, restrain, withhold. Abstinence!

Fornication: illicit sexual activity; sex before marriage

God's design for sex is in marriage relationship. Heb 13:4

1 Th 4:4 Possess: *Control, manage*

Vessel: Stuff, goods, equipment.

Know: Perceive, understand

Everyone of you ought to be fully equipped and knowledgeable in how to handle yourself in the world in such a way that you maintain your purity and your honor as a child of God.

Vessels to honor and vessels to dishonor. Rom 9:21 2 Tim 2:20-21

1 Th 4:5 *Concupiscence:* a longing after.. forbidden, desire, lust.

1 Thess 5:23: Body, soul and spirit.

Spirit of man--unseen part that seeks fellowship with God.

Place where conscience dwells.

Guilt a function of spirit.

Discernment a function of spirit.

Soul (mind, will, emotions) and physical dominated by spirit when young.

Born-again--Holy Spirit quickens spirit. Becomes *spiritually alive*

Lasciviousness: Preoccupation with bodily or sexual pleasure exhibited by excessive and unrestrained excitement of the physical senses for personal gratification. Gal 5:19; 2 Pet 2:2; 2 Pet 2:18; Eph 4:19

God's desire is that all aspects of our lives be related around spiritual drives

When the mental, emotional and volitional drives (psychological functions) are integrated around the spiritual; and when the physical drives are disciplined by spiritual standards, an inner balance and freedom result which makes it possible to live in harmony with God's standards. Basic Manual IBPLP

When person involved in lasciviousness

Sensual drives (soul) become stronger. Stronger temptations...inner conflict between spirit and sensual.

Double-minded. James 1:8

Another term for double-minded: concupiscence

As person pursues flesh--becomes a reprobate. Totally controlled by flesh and spirit is squelched. Rom 6:12-13

Visible Evidences of Moral Impurity (IBPLP)

1. Claiming that under "grace" and free to do what want. Jude 4; Rom 6:1,2
2. Despising submission and speaking evil of those in authority. 2 Pet. 2:9,10

3. Scoffing at spiritual truths which are beyond human reasoning. Jude 10
4. Complaining about moral strictness and developing new and fashionable philosophies. Jude 16; 2 Peter 2:18,19
5. Arguing irrationally over pseudo-philosophies that contradict God's Word Titus 3:9-11
6. Using guise of religion to cover pride, lust and rebellion. 2 Tim. 3:2-5

Steps in Development of Lasciviousness

1. Natural Curiosity
2. Awakening of the Conscience
3. Sensual Focus
4. Questioning of Scripture
5. Violation of Conscience
6. Awakening of Guilt
7. Response to Guilt
8. Incomplete repentance of Lasciviousness
9. Compensation in Religious activity
10. Frustration over concupiscence
11. "Redefining" morality
12. Argumentation over scripture and doctrine

1 Th 4:6 *Defraud:* attempt to take advantage of another in order to satisfy evil motives and desires.

In area of moral impurity: To arouse sexual desires in another, which cannot be righteously satisfied. To lead somebody on in a relationship.

Physical involvement before marriage

A woman can defraud by way she dresses...walks... flirts...touches

A man can defraud by his speech

Hugging can defraud.

... *Lord is the avenger of all such,* The Lord will even up the score. Gal 6:7-8

... *forewarned you and testified* We have plainly told you this before with strong warnings. This is not new to you!

1 Th 4:7 *For God hath not called us unto uncleanness, but unto holiness.*

When God saved us He did so with a purpose. Eph 2:8-10

Why God save us? We might bring honor and glory to Him.

Called with a commission: Be clean! Be holy!

So What?

4:3 Stay away from moral impurity

4:4 Become fully equipped and knowledgeable in how to handle ourselves in the world in such a way that we maintain our purity and honor as a children of God.

4:5 Never allow ourselves to become preoccupied with bodily or sexual pleasure exhibited by excessive and unrestrained excitement of the physical senses for personal gratification.

4:6 Never defraud: attempt to take advantage of another in order to satisfy evil motives and desires

4:7 Realize that we are saved with a commission: Be clean! Be holy!